

(b) In the Claims

Please cancel claims 9 and 12 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Kindly amend claim 1 as follows.

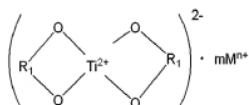
The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and listings.

1. (Currently Amended) A magnetic toner comprising magnetic toner particles each comprising at least a monoazo iron compound, an aluminum compound of an aromatic hydroxyl carboxylic acid, a binder resin and a magnetic iron oxide, wherein:

the magnetic toner has a saturation magnetization  $\sigma_s$  being in the range of 5 to 60 Am<sup>2</sup>/kg and a remanent magnetization  $\sigma_r$  being in the range of 0.1 to 10.0 Am<sup>2</sup>/kg in a measured magnetic field of 795.8 kA/m;

the binder resin contains a polyester component polymerized by using a Ti chelate compound having a ligand selected from the group consisting of a diol, dicarboxylic acid, and an oxycarboxylic acid as a catalyst; and the Ti chelate compound is represented by any one of the following formulae (I) to (IV) and hydrates thereof:

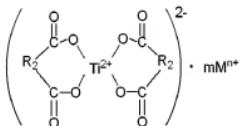
Formula (I)



in the formula (I), R<sub>1</sub> denotes one of an alkylene group or an alkenylene group each having 2 to 10 carbon atoms and may have a substituent, M denotes a countercation, m denotes a

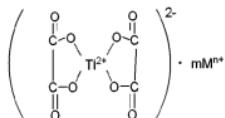
cation number, n denotes a cation valence, n=2 when m=1, n=1 when m=2, and M denotes one of a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion, or an organic ammonium ion when n=1, or denotes an alkali earth metal ion when n=2;

Formula (II)



in the formula (II), R<sub>2</sub> denotes one of an alkylene group or an alkenylene group each having 1 to 10 carbon atoms and may have a substituent, M denotes a countercation, m denotes a cation number, n denotes a cation valence, n=2 when m=1, n=1 when m=2, and M denotes one of a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion, or an organic ammonium ion when n=1, or denotes an alkali earth metal ion when n=2;

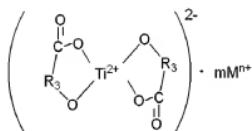
Formula (III)



in the formula (III), M denotes a countercation, m denotes a cation number, n denotes a cation valence, n=2 when m=1, n=1 when m=2, and M denotes one of a hydrogen ion, an

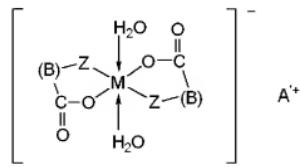
alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion, or an organic ammonium ion when n=1, or denotes an alkali earth metal ion when n=2;

Formula (IV)

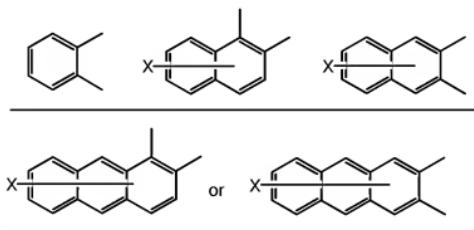


in the formula (IV), R<sub>3</sub> denotes one of an alkylene group or an alkenylene group each having 1 to 10 carbon atoms and may have a substituent, M denotes a countercation, m denotes a cation number, n denotes a cation valence, n=2 when m=1, n=1 when m=2, and M denotes one of a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion, or an organic ammonium ion when n=1, or denotes an alkali earth metal ion when n=2, wherein the polyester component comprises a compound having a structure containing oxyalkylene ether of a novolak phenolic resin as an alcohol component; and wherein the metal compound of an aromatic hydroxyl carboxylic acid is represented by the following formula (13):

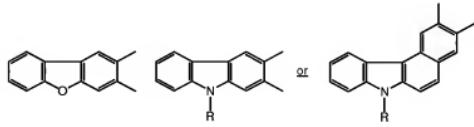
Formula (13)



wherein M represents aluminum; (B) represents (i) a group of the following structure:



which may contain a substituent, wherein X represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom,  
or a nitro group; or (ii)



wherein, R represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 18 carbon atoms, or an  
alkenyl group having 2 to 18 carbon atoms.

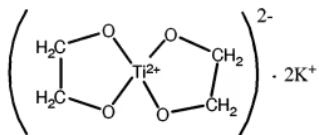
A<sup>“</sup> represents hydrogen, a sodium ion, a potassium ion, an ammonium ion, or an aliphatic  
ammonium ion and Z represents -O- or -C(=O)-O-.

2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Original) A magnetic toner according to claim 1, wherein the magnetic iron oxide comprises 0.1 to 2.0% by mass of an Si element.
5. (Original) A magnetic toner according to claim 1, further comprising hydrophobic silica treated with hexamethyldisilazane and with silicone oil.
6. (Previously Presented) A magnetic toner according to claim 1, wherein an average circularity of the magnetic toner particles of the magnetic toner which have equivalent circle diameters of 3  $\mu\text{m}$  or more and 400  $\mu\text{m}$  or less measured with a flow particle image analyzer, is 0.930 or more and less than 0.970.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)

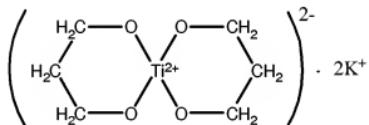
10. (Previously Presented) A magnetic toner according to claim 1,  
wherein the Ti chelate compound is represented by the formula (I).

11. (Previously Presented) A magnetic toner according to claim 1,  
wherein the binder resin contains a polyester component polymerized by using Ti chelate  
compounds (1) and (2) together thereof:

Ti chelate compound (1)



Ti chelate compound (2)



12. (Cancelled)